



DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

**During this time of the year, some businesses conduct door to door sales of home security alarm systems. Here are some important tips you should know:**

- Anyone selling alarm systems in the City of Lynchburg must have a business license and a Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) license. If you have a salesperson come to your door selling alarm systems, make sure you get them to show you their DCJS license before conducting business with them. DCJS is online at <http://www.dcjs.virginia.gov/>. You may want to use this site to make sure an alarm company is registered and has a valid business license under Business License Verification.
- Take your time to make the right decision for your home security. Don't be tempted by offers that are "good for one day only."
- Get several estimates & compare pricing. It's a good practice to get three (3) quotes anytime you are purchasing an item that you will have for years.
- Read the information carefully to be sure you know the terms of the contract you are signing. \*\*Some contracts for alarm systems where the alarm system is free have a three (3) to Five (5) year minimum contract that you must commit to and pay the monthly monitoring for that amount of years with out being able to cut it off.
- If you buy an alarm system from a door to door salesperson, remember the Virginia Home Solicitation Sales Act gives you the right to cancel your order within three (3) days of the sale.
- The salesperson should advise you of the local alarm systems ordinance. The City of Lynchburg has an ordinance and anyone who purchases an alarm system within the City must obtain an alarm permit.

Any Questions on annual alarm permits that need to be obtained once an alarm system is purchased may be directed to Amy Lowe, Alarm Coordinator, Lynchburg Dept of Emergency Services.

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